

Dear Commissioners:

Stop hidden phone fees so I can truly compare prices of phone services. I support the petition filed by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates and endorsed by other consumer advocacy organizations. CG Docket No. 04-208, Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Truth-In-Billing and Billing Format, is long overdue.

Phone bills should be truthful and easy to understand. It is necessary that our phone bills include all information. I have had several bills from VERIZON WIRELESS, where usage bills have been added, and I have had to spend too much time and investigating to just find out what they were. VERIZON received messages via email and phone, and I got nowhere with them. There is always some 'hoop you have to go through' to acquire the needed information. Then, you're exhausted or have run out of time before ever getting an answer. So, YES, YES, YES, put an end to this lack of simple, consumer friendly information. Afterall, we, the consumers, are paying the bills - with our hands tied!!!! VERIZON has plenty of 'other' information available on their website, but not the surcharges and usage information . . . hmmmmmmmm??????????

Because this practice is tolerated by the FCC, long distance and wireless phone companies are able to hide the true cost of service. These add-ons make the advertised price of service significantly less than the amount of the check I have to write each month to pay the bill. Competition will not work if consumers cannot accurately compare prices when shopping for service.

Many states are stepping up to address this problem. They should be allowed to proceed. However, the FCC shouldn't shirk its responsibility, nor limit states from doing more.

The FCC should immediately grant the NASUCA petition to investigate billing practices, and prohibit phone and wireless companies from imposing separate monthly fees, line items or surcharges unless expressly mandated by law or the charge is expressly authorized by a governmental authority.